

Serial No.: 09/888,515

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3, as amended, remain herein.

Applicants appreciate the statements in the Office Action that claims 2 and 3 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any independent claims(s). Claims 1 and 2 have been combined to place all claims in condition for immediate allowance. Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1, and claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1 and 3 have been edited for clarity.

1. The title has been replaced with: "Photoreceptor Circuit Switchable Between Operating Modes."

2. Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to moot the rejection. Antecedent bases in claims 1-3 are now clear.

Claim 1 now recites description of relative terms "close" and "remote".

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Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

3. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Stéphane et al. French Patent Application Publication 2787589. Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of allowable claim 2, thereby mooting the rejection.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

4. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over Ev n et al. U.S. Patent 6,355,924. Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of allowable claim 2, thereby mooting the rejection.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

All claims 1 and 3 are now proper in form and patentably distinguished over all grounds of rejection cited in the Office

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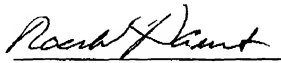
Action. Accordingly, allowance of all claims 1 and 3 is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by the applicants would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone applicants' undersigned representatives.

Respectfully submitted,

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September 3, 2003
Date


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